

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05  
CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FPC-01 H-02  
INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04  
USIA-15 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10  
PA-02 PRS-01 /141 W  
-----272352Z 014987 /21

R 271600Z APR 77  
FM USMISSION USBERLIN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4463  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

UNCLAS USBERLIN 1127

E O 11652: NA  
TAGS: ENRG, TECH, GW, BR, WB  
SUBJ: NUCLEAR RESEARCH WORKERS PROTEST GERMAN/BRASILIAN NUCLEAR  
DEAL

1. SUMMARY: GROUP OF EMPLOYEES OF BERLIN ATOMIC RESEARCH  
INSTITUTE HAVE ADDRESSED OPEN LETTER TO FRG FOREIGN MINISTER  
PROTESTING FRG/BRAZIL NUCLEAR DEAL ON GROUNDS THAT BRAZIL  
MAY WISH TO BUILD ATOMIC BOMBS AND THAT GERMAN-PROVIDED  
FACILITIES GIVE THEM CAPABILITY TO DO SO. DIRECTOR OF  
INSTITUTE DISAGREES WITH EMPLOYEES, STATING THAT BRAZIL  
ALREADY HAS SUCH CAPABILITY AND THAT GERMAN DEAL WOULD,  
IF ANYTHING, MAKE BOMB DEVELOPMENT MORE DIFFICULT FOR  
BRAZIL. END SUMMARY.

2. BERLIN NEWSPAPER TAGESSPIEGEL REPORTS THAT 98 OF THE  
APPROXIMATELY 500 EMPLOYEES OF BERLIN'S HAHN-MEITNER  
INSTITUTE FOR ATOMIC RESEARCH HAVE SENT AN OPEN LETTER  
TO FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER CALLING FOR CANCELATION  
OF THE CONTRACT FOR GERMAN SALE TO BRAZIL OF EIGHT  
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NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS AND A URANIUM ENRICHMENT AND  
REPROCESSING FACILITY. GROUP ALSO DEMANDED THAT FRG  
LIMIT ITS SALES OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS TO COUNTRIES  
WHICH HAVE SIGNED THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY (NPT).

3. PETITIONERS ALLEGE THAT BRAZIL BASED ITS REFUSAL TO  
SIGN NPT ON "POSSIBLE DAMAGE TO ITS NATIONAL SECURITY AND

SELF-DEFENSE." THEY CITE ALLEGED 1967 COMMENT BY BRAZIL THAT TREATY ON NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE IN LATIN AMERICA AUTHORIZES CARRYING OUT "EXPLOSIONS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES INCLUDING EXPLOSIONS WHICH USE NUCLEAR DEVICES WHICH CORRESPOND TO THOSE USED IN ATOMIC WEAPONS." THE SIGNERS CONCLUDE THAT BRAZIL WISHES TO HOLD OPEN AN OPTION FOR NUCLEAR ARMAMENT.

4. GROUP OF SIGNERS, IN CONVERSATION WITH TAGESSPIEGEL REPORTER, ELABORATED ON THEIR VIEWS NOTING THAT USED FUEL ELEMENTS FROM ATOMIC POWER PLANTS COULD ENABLE BRAZIL TO BUILD AN ATOMIC BOMB. CONTROLS CONTAINED IN FRG-BRAZIL CONTRACT COULD NOT PREVENT THIS SINCE INSPECTORS WOULD HAVE TO RELY ON STATEMENTS BY POWER PLANT OPERATORS AND SINCE DEVIATIONS OF UP TO 0.5 PERCENT COULD NOT BE DETECTED DURING INSPECTIONS. SPEAKER NOTED THAT BOMB OF HIROSHIMA SIZE REQUIRES ONLY FIVE KILGRAMS OF PLUTONIUM WITH MINIMUM FISSIONABLE CONTENT OF 60 PERCENT AND THAT THIS AMOUNT COULD BE PRODUCED IN 1000 DAYS OPERATION OF A 20-MW RREACTOR. TAGESSPIEGEL SAYS THAT ABOUT HALF OF SIGNERS ARE SCIENTISTS AND THE OTHERS TECHNICIANS. IT GIVES NO NAMES AND MAKES NO COMMENT ON POLITICAL ORIENTATION OF PETITIONERS.

5. PROFESSOR LEVI, HEAD OF HAHN-MEITNER, PUBLICLY DISAGREED WITH PETITIONERS. LEVI STATED BRAZIL ALREADY HAS ATOMIC WEAPONS CAPABILITY AND THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF FRG/BRAZIL TREATY WOULD IN FACT MAKE DEVELOPMENT OF BOMB MORE DIFFICULT. HE ADVOCATED "POLITICAL SOLUTION", UNCLASSIFIED

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TO PROBLEM, SUCH AS IMPROVEMENT OF CONTROL MECHANISM THROUGH IMPROVED FINANCING OF IAEA. HE SAW MOST REASONABLE SOLUTION AS INTERNATIONALIZATION OF PROCESSING. WHILE HE DID NOT AGREE IN SUBSTANCE WITH HIS PETITIONING EMPLOYEES, HE WELCOMED INTEREST OF SCIENTISTS IN POLITICAL ASPECTS OF THEIR WORK.DAVIS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NUCLEAR RESEARCH WORKERS PROTEST GERMAN/BRASILIAN NUCLEAR DEAL  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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